

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS) 2023 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

House Bill 249 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023

Approved by Governor Reeves on March 22, 2023

- To amend sections 25-53-1 and 25-53-5 (as amended by Senate Bill 2728, 2023 Regular Legislative Session), Mississippi code of 1972,to extend the exemption of acquisitions of Information Technology Equipment and Services made by the Mississippi Department of Health and the Mississippi Department of Revenue for the purposes of implementing, administering and enforcing the provisions of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act from Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

Senate Bill 2140 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023

Approved by Governor Reeves on April 11, 2023

- To create a new Section within Title 25, Chapter 53 of the Mississippi Code entitled “The National Security on State Devices and Networks Act” mandating that ITS, or any other appropriate state agency, restrict the download, access or use of prohibited technologies on state-operated networks with a list of such prohibited technologies to be maintained and made publicly available by ITS on its website.
- To amend Section 25-53-191 of the Mississippi Code to require ITS to amend its acceptable use policy for state-owned cellular devices and add a prohibition on the downloading, accessing, or using of a prohibited technology.
- To amend Section 25-53-191 to allow IHL employees to be reimbursed when incurring international usage charges for the business-related use of their personal wireless communication devices during business-related international travel, provided, the IHL has determined that reimbursement to the employee for use of the personal device is the lowest-cost option to prevent business interruption during such travel.

Senate Bill 2717 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023

Approved by Governor Reeves on March 3, 2023

- To amend Section 25-53-201 of the Mississippi Code to require ITS to conduct an evaluation of the Enterprise Security Program (ESP) by November 1, 2023, to ensure that appropriate security protocols are implemented and to analyze whether opportunities exist to centralize and coordinate oversight of cybersecurity efforts across all state agencies and expand the ESP to governing authorities.
- Adds definitions for the terms “cyberattack” and “ransomware,” and requires that state agencies report such an event to ITS no later than the close of the next business day.
- Requires that ITS develop a reporting format to be utilized by state agencies to report cyberattacks and ransomware demands and periodically analyze all such reports to identify patterns or weaknesses in the state’s cybersecurity efforts, if any.
- Exempts all documents related to the evaluation of the ESP, reports of a cyberattack or ransomware demand, and analysis of such reports from the Mississippi Public Records Act (MPRA).

Senate Bill 2728 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023
Approved by Governor Reeves on March 14, 2023

- To amend Section 25-53-5 of the Mississippi Code for ITS to enter into Master Agreements, or contracts where the acquisition has been made by other entities, for IT or telecommunications equipment or services, including cloud computing. This is intended to promote the maximum use and benefit from technology and services and to identify opportunities, minimize duplication, reduce costs and improve the efficiency of providing common technology services.

Senate Bill 2729 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023
Approved by Governor Reeves on April 17, 2023

- To amend Section 25-53-21 of the Mississippi Code to require customer-agency/institution approval of any negotiated limitation of liability provision in an ITS contract prior to execution.

Senate Bill 2781 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023
Approved by Governor Reeves on April 19, 2023

- To require ITS to develop, implement, and manage a website (by October 1, 2023) and a mobile application (by January 1, 2024) to coordinate and promote information and services related to pregnancy, childbirth and care for dependent children for expectant mothers and new parents. The information and resources to be published on the website and app are to be identified by the Departments of Health, Human Services, Mental Health, Child Protection Services, Employment Security, the Mississippi Division of Medicaid and the Mississippi Office of Workforce Development. The Attorney General of Mississippi is granted ultimate authority for oversight of the law.

Senate Bill 2962 (Regular Session 2023), effective upon passage
Approved by Governor Reeves on February 27, 2023

- Additional appropriation for ITS for purchase of state-owned private cloud environment.

Senate Bill 3045 (Regular Session 2023), effective July 1, 2023
Approved by Governor Reeves on April 19, 2023

- ITS Appropriation Bill for Fiscal Year 2024.

Senate Nomination 69 (Regular Session 2023), appointment confirmed March 27, 2023

- Charles William (Bill) Cook, Jr. confirmed for a five-year term to the ITS Board effective July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2027.